12th October 1928]

A.—(*a*) Wherever by local custom, the work of removing prickly-pear from bunds of irrigation tanks is usually executed by the joint labour of the village community and when any ryot neglects or refuses without reasonable cause to comply with an official requisition for such customary labour, the ryot concerned can be called on to pay his share of the cost.

(*b*) Under section 6 of Madras Act I of 1858. It is entirely a question of fact whether the local custom does or does not exist; and so no point for legal opinion arises.

(*c*) There is a paragraph in the descriptive memoir of the settlement registers of most districts detailing the works which the ryots have to attend to according to local custom.

(*d*) The Government have no specific information to that effect.

(*e*) The question of amending the Act is under consideration.

Landlord and Tenant

Settlement operations in Parlakimedi estate.

* 603 *Q.*—Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo: With reference to the reply given to the question No. 209 answered on the 6th September 1928 will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have arrived at a decision on the question;

(*b*) if not, whether the Government will consider the desirability of directing the Assistant Settlement Officer, Ganjam, not to proceed further with the settlement operations in Parlakimedi estate till the Government arrive at a decision; and

(*c*) the reasons why settlement operations in Parlakimedi estate were given preference even though such operations for villages in the Tekkali, Nandigam, Khallikote, Attagada and Dharakote estates were sanctioned earlier?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Government have not yet arrived at a decision. They are awaiting a report from the Collector.

(*c*) No preference was given to settlement work in the Parlakimedi estate. The same officer was appointed to work in all the estates mentioned and took charge on the 23rd February last.

Minor Irrigation

Inclusion of the 'Kilanur madugu' in Tiruvellore taluk in the Imperial list.

* 604 *Q.*—Mr. P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that Public Works Department Imperial list tank No. 466 of Tiruvellore taluk, Chingleput district, known as "Kilanur madugu" alias "Vishnuvakam madugu thangal," tank No. 2 of Karikalavakam tank group of the Red Hills Minor Basin, actually irrigates 131 acres 99 cents in the village of Karikalavakam, 147 acres 21 cents in the village of Vishnuvakam, 30 acres and 40 cents in the village of Vilapakam, 89 acres and 4 cents in Kilanur and 48 acres and 50 cents in Arumbakam, amounting in all to 447 acres and 23 cents;